

d) REMARKS:

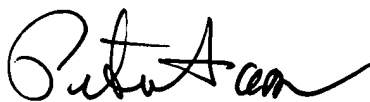
Claims 1-7 appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Former claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 1-7 are allowed.

Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by JP11-29863 ("JP '863") for the reasons set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the outstanding Office Action. Without agreeing or disagreeing and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 8 and 9 are cancelled.

As all rejections are believed overcome, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect would be appreciated.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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